

PRICE DEVELOPMENTS REPORT

JANUARY 2025

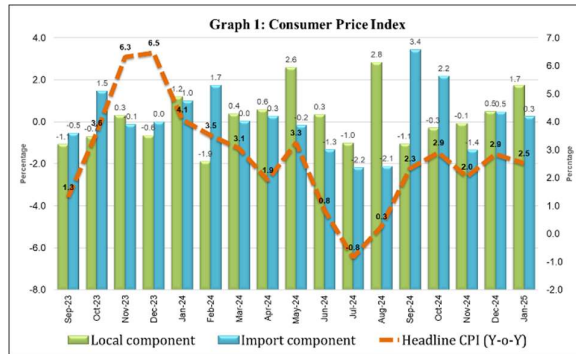
This report is prepared on a monthly basis using monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) data from the Samoa Bureau of Statistics.

Report No.7: 2024/2025

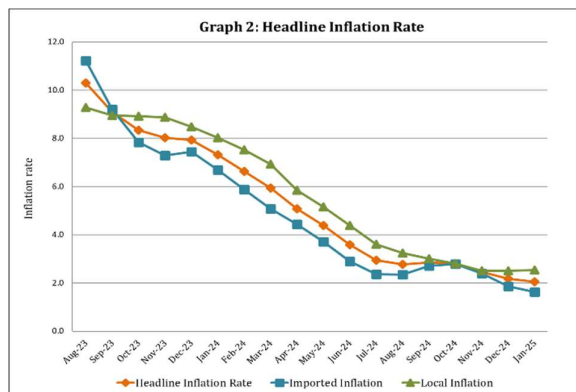
January 2025

1. Headline CPI and Inflation

The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** rose by **0.7 percent** from the previous month, with both its imported and local components increasing by 1.7 percent and 0.3 percent respectively. Similarly, it was 2.5 percent higher compared to January 2024. (See Graph 1)



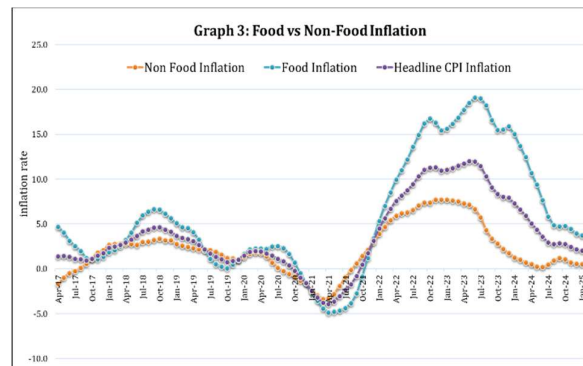
Nevertheless, the **annual average headline inflation rate declined further to 2.0 percent** from 2.2 percent in the previous month and 7.3 percent in the same month last year. Resulting from further reductions in imported inflation to 1.6 percent in January 2025 (from 1.9 percent in the previous month) while the local inflation remained at 2.5 percent, the lower inflation rate reflected the currently subdued price pressures compared to a year ago. (See Graph 2).



1.1 Headline Food vs Non-Food Inflation

This section decomposes the headline CPI in terms of its Food and Non-Food inflation components. Food makes up 40.4 percent of the total CPI basket while Non-Food is around 59.6 percent. Historically, the predominant driver in Samoa's CPI inflationary trend is food inflation, with some periods influenced by non-food inflation (which includes fuel prices).

The Food price index rose by 0.6 percent over the previous month but its **annual average inflation rate fell further to 3.7 percent** from 4.0 percent in December 2024 and 15.0 percent in January 2024. The monthly increase in the Food price index reflected higher prices for imported food items such as noodles, canned fish, cooking oil, milk and onions to name a few. In addition, prices of locally produced food items such as fish, eggs, taro and vegetables also went up. (See Graph 3). Compared to last year, these currently monthly price increases were lower.



Similarly, the Non-Food price index went up by 0.6 percent over the month while the **annual average non-food inflation rate decreased further to 0.5 percent** from 0.6 percent in December 2024 and 1.3 percent in January 2024. The increase over the month was due to

Review of Price Developments

January 2025

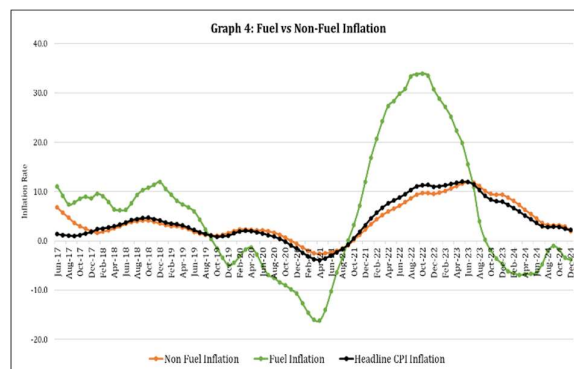
increases in its sub-groups, such as 'Transport', 'Alcoholic Beverages', 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels', 'Miscellaneous goods and services', 'Recreation and Culture' and 'Health'.

1.2 Headline Fuel¹ vs Non-Fuel Inflation

This section breaks down the headline CPI in terms of fuel and non-fuel inflation. Fuel makes up 6.6 percent of the total CPI basket while non-fuel is around 93.4 percent. Historically, the predominant driver in Samoa's CPI inflationary trend is non-fuel inflation given its much larger weight.

The Fuel price index edged up by 1.5 percent from the previous month, reflecting the current upward trend in imported fuel prices. **On an annual average basis, the fuel deflation rate** rose slightly from -3.8 percent to -3.7 percent² in January 2025, which was above -6.2 percent in January 2024.

Likewise, the Non-Fuel price index rose by 0.5 percent from the previous month. However, **the annual average non-fuel inflation rate** fell to 2.5 percent from 2.6 percent last month, which was notably lower than 8.8 percent recorded in January 2024. The monthly increase reflected higher prices for the 'Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages', 'Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco', 'Miscellaneous goods and services', 'Recreation and Culture', 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels' and 'Health' sub-groups. (See Graph 4)



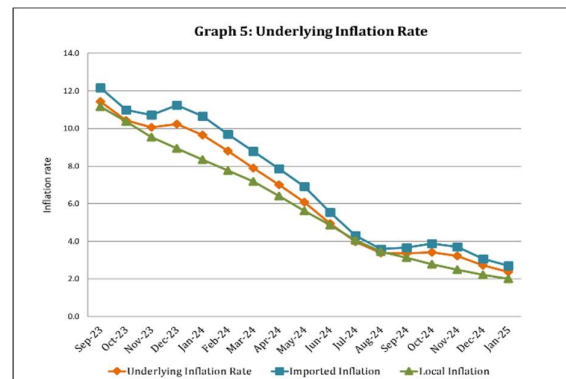
2. Underlying CPI and Inflation

The **Underlying CPI³** remained unchanged in January 2025 but was 1.9 percent higher when compared to the same month last year.

¹ Fuel includes unleaded petrol, diesel, gas and kerosene prices.

² Deflation is when the inflation rate is negative meaning prices are actually lower than the comparative period.

Nevertheless, the **annual average underlying inflation rate** dropped further to 2.4 percent from 2.7 percent in December 2024, and 9.7 percent in January 2024. (See Graph 5)



2.1 Underlying Food vs Non-Food Inflation

The **annual average underlying food inflation rate** fell further to 2.8 percent from 3.2 percent last month, which was far below the 12.0 percent recorded in January last year. The annual average **underlying non-food inflation rate** also declined to 1.6 percent from 1.8 percent in December 2024 and 5.4 percent in January 2024.

CENTRAL BANK OF SAMOA

10th March 2025

³ Underlying CPI takes into account the effects of both external and local pressure on prices for commodities that are not subject to extreme volatility and price regulations.

Review of Price Developments
January 2025

Table 1: HEADLINE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (February 2016 = 100) **

		All Groups Index	Percentage change				Overall Import Component				Overall Local Component			
			12 months average	Latest month		12 months over prev 12 months (AnnAvg)	Index	Monthly Change	Annual Average 12 months	Annual Average Percent Change	Index	Monthly Change	Annual Average 12 months	Annual Average Percent Change
				over prev month	over a year earlier									
2022	January	114.8	110.8	-0.4	10.7	4.5	121.6	-0.9	115.4	7.6	108.3	0.1	106.3	1.4
2023	January	128.2	123.1	3.3	11.6	11.0	137.9	5.5	132.9	15.1	118.6	1.0	113.5	6.7
2024	January	133.4	132.1	1.1	4.1	7.3	143.4	1.0	141.8	6.7	123.7	1.1	122.6	8.0
	February	133.5	132.5	0.1	3.5	6.6	145.9	1.7	142.2	5.9	121.4	-1.8	122.9	7.5
	March	133.8	132.8	0.2	3.1	5.9	145.9	0.0	142.7	5.1	121.9	0.4	123.1	6.9
	April	134.3	133.0	0.4	1.9	5.1	146.3	0.3	143.1	4.4	122.6	0.6	123.1	5.8
	May	135.8	133.3	1.1	3.3	4.4	146.0	-0.2	143.5	3.7	125.8	2.6	123.4	5.2
	June	135.1	133.4	-0.6	0.8	3.6	144.1	-1.3	143.5	2.9	126.2	0.3	123.6	4.4
	July	132.9	133.3	-1.6	-0.8	2.9	140.9	-2.2	143.3	2.4	124.9	-1.0	123.6	3.6
	August	133.2	133.4	0.2	0.3	2.8	138.0	-2.1	143.1	2.4	128.4	2.8	123.9	3.2
	September	134.8	133.6	1.2	2.3	2.9	142.7	3.4	143.3	2.7	127.0	-1.1	124.2	3.0
	October	136.2	134.0	1.0	2.9	2.8	145.8	2.2	143.6	2.8	126.7	-0.2	124.5	2.8
	November	135.1	134.2	-0.8	2.0	2.5	143.8	-1.4	143.7	2.4	126.7	-0.1	124.8	2.5
	December	135.8	134.5	0.5	2.9	2.2	144.5	0.5	143.9	1.9	127.3	0.5	125.2	2.5
2025	January	136.8	134.8	0.7	2.5	2.0	144.9	0.3	144.1	1.6	129.5	1.7	125.7	2.5

Source: CPI data from February 2016 onwards are from the Samoa Bureau of Statistics.
Historical CPI figures from SBS prior to February 2016 and further spliced by the CBS to later years.
(R) - Revised due to adjustments made from Samoa Bureau of Statistics (SBS)
** New CPI Index reflecting the 2013/14 Household Income and Expenditures Survey

Table 2: UNDERLYING CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (February 2016 = 100) **

	All Groups	Percent Changes						Overall Import Component				Overall Local Component			
		Monthly Index	3 months average	12 months average	Latest Month		Annual Average Percent Change	Index	Monthly Change	12 months avg	Annual Average Percent Change	Index	Monthly Change	12 months avg	Annual Average Percent Change
					over prev month	over a year earlier									
2022 January	115.4	114.6	110.9	0.1	10.3	4.3	118.5	-0.3	113.5	5.8	108.9	1.0	105.4	0.8	
2023 January	130.5	127.0	124.1	4.9	13.0	11.9	135.2	7.1	128.3	13.0	120.2	-0.1	115.2	9.3	
2024 January	138.6	136.8	136.1	1.4	6.2	9.7	144.9	1.8	142.0	10.7	125.0	0.5	123.5	7.2	
February	140.9	138.7	136.7	1.6	4.8	8.8	148.2	2.3	142.6	9.7	125.0	0.0	123.9	6.6	
March	140.3	139.9	137.1	-0.4	4.3	7.9	147.3	-0.6	143.2	8.8	125.0	0.0	124.1	5.7	
April	140.1	140.4	137.6	-0.1	3.8	7.0	147.0	-0.2	143.7	7.9	125.1	0.1	124.3	4.9	
May	139.9	140.1	138.0	-0.1	3.5	6.1	146.7	-0.2	144.2	6.9	125.3	0.1	124.5	4.1	
June	137.8	139.3	138.0	-1.5	0.1	4.9	143.6	-2.1	144.1	5.5	125.4	0.1	124.7	3.5	
July	135.1	137.6	137.7	-2.0	-2.3	4.0	139.7	-2.7	143.7	4.3	125.3	-0.1	124.8	3.2	
August	134.4	135.8	137.5	-0.5	-1.7	3.4	138.5	-0.8	143.3	3.6	125.5	0.2	125.0	2.9	
September	138.1	135.9	137.7	2.7	1.9	3.4	143.9	3.9	143.6	3.7	125.4	-0.1	125.1	2.6	
October	141.8	138.1	138.2	2.7	4.4	3.4	149.3	3.8	144.3	3.9	125.7	0.2	125.1	2.3	
November	141.1	140.4	138.7	-0.5	4.5	3.2	148.3	-0.7	145.0	3.7	125.6	0.0	125.2	2.0	
December	141.3	141.4	139.1	0.1	3.4	2.7	148.5	0.1	145.5	3.1	125.7	0.1	125.3	1.8	
2025 January	141.3	141.2	139.3	0.0	1.9	2.4	148.5	0.0	145.8	2.7	125.7	0.0	125.4	1.5	

Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics
(R) - Revised due to adjustments made from Samoa Bureau of Statistics (SBS)
** New CPI Index reflecting the 2013/14 Household Income and Expenditures Survey

Table 3: FOOD vs NON-FOOD INFLATION & FUEL vs NON-FUEL INFLATION (February 2016 = 100) **

		Food Inflation (40.4%)				Non-Food Inflation (59.6%)				Fuel Inflation (6.6%)				Non-Fuel Inflation (93.4%)			
		Index	Monthly Change	3mths av % chg	Annual Average Percent Change	Index	Monthly Change	3mths av % chg	Annual Average Percent Change	Index	Monthly Change	3mths av % chg	Annual Average Percent Change	Index	Monthly Change	3mths av % chg	Annual Average Percent Change
2022	January	122.3	-0.6	3.1	5.3	109.8	-0.3	-0.2	3.9	132.6	-3.4	7.6	16.8	113.4	-0.1	0.9	3.4
2022	January	144.5	7.4	-3.6	15.6	117.1	0.2	-2.2	7.7	150.3	-0.4	-9.3	28.8	126.6	3.8	-2.1	9.8
2022	January	156.6	2.2	-0.3	15.0	117.8	0.1	0.7	1.3	140.1	-2.6	2.6	-6.2	132.9	1.1	0.0	8.8
	February	157.4	0.5	2.3	13.7	117.4	-0.4	-0.8	1.0	139.0	-0.8	-5.5	-6.5	133.5	0.4	1.3	8.1
	March	156.8	-0.4	3.1	12.5	118.2	0.7	-0.8	0.7	143.3	3.1	-6.2	-6.9	133.2	-0.2	1.6	7.3
	April	157.2	0.3	2.3	10.7	118.8	0.5	-0.2	0.5	147.2	2.7	-2.3	-6.8	133.6	0.3	1.3	6.3
	May	160.7	2.2	1.6	9.4	119.0	0.1	0.9	0.3	147.1	-0.1	3.4	-6.7	135.1	1.1	1.0	5.5
	June	158.2	-1.6	1.1	7.7	119.4	0.4	1.1	0.2	146.9	-0.1	4.4	-6.4	133.9	-0.9	0.8	4.5
	July	153.0	-3.3	0.1	5.9	119.2	-0.2	0.9	0.5	146.9	0.0	2.7	-4.8	131.6	-1.7	0.1	3.6
	August	155.6	1.7	-1.7	4.9	118.0	-1.0	0.2	1.0	138.0	-6.1	-1.3	-2.2	133.0	1.1	-0.8	3.2
	September	159.2	2.3	-1.7	4.8	118.3	0.3	-0.5	1.2	138.0	0.0	-4.1	-1.0	134.7	1.2	-0.8	3.1
	October	164.1	3.0	1.5	4.8	117.3	-0.9	-1.1	1.1	133.3	-3.4	-7.2	-1.8	136.7	1.5	1.0	3.1
	November	162.8	-0.7	4.1	4.5	116.4	-0.8	-1.3	0.7	126.6	-5.1	-7.9	-3.4	136.2	-0.4	2.3	2.9
	December	163.7	0.5	4.9	4.0	116.9	0.4	-1.4	0.6	130.1	2.8	-7.8	-3.8	136.6	0.3	2.6	2.6
2025	January	164.7	0.6	2.6	3.7	117.6	0.6	-0.8	0.5	132.0	1.5	-5.0	-3.7	137.4	0.5	1.4	2.5

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